

Times Local News

Neighbors coming together

By Councilmember Rose Herrera
Special to the Times

Watching the kids head back to school is a reminder to enjoy the wonderful summer nights while we still have them. What a great time of year it is to gather together. I'm happy to report that District 8 was able to do just that last Saturday, at the Involved Evergreen and District 8 Community Roundtable Movie Night and End of Summer Celebration.

Many of you brought your families and joined us in a picnic-style dinner in the Evergreen Village Square to watch a "Night at the Museum 2." It was such a fun event with music and air jumpers for the kids, and the community coming together and interacting with their neighbors.

It's these types of events that make Evergreen a special place to live. This week I'd like to let you know about future community events and some of the resources we have available to strengthen your connection with your neighbors.

This Saturday, Aug. 22, Evergreen Village is having its last summertime event. *Music in the Plaza* will take place from 4-6 p.m., and will feature live music from the Chubby's All-Stars. This is one of my favorite summer activities. It will be a fun evening providing us another opportunity to mingle with neighbors and enjoy the end of summer.

Another upcoming event that I'm excited to tell you about is *A Day in the Park*, a multicultural festival that will be held Saturday, October 3 at Lake Cunningham Park. San Jose is fortunate to be home to people of many cultures and my office is pleased to host an event in celebration of all the people who live here. Be sure to mark your calendars and I hope to see you all there!

Movie Night and Day in the Park are examples of great events that bring us together and showcase our community. Throughout the year, there are other opportunities for you to play a role in keeping connected with your neighbors and the city.

First, there are many ways to get involved in

community safety and combating crime. For example, we had an excellent turnout at this year's National Night Out earlier this month, where the neighborhood came together to learn about crime and drug prevention and participate in local anti crime programs. A successful National Night Out event can range from a block party hosted in someone's garage to a huge neighborhood BBQ at a local park. For those who didn't make it to the event, there is information online at the San Jose Police Department's website: www.sjpd.org or nationaltownwatch.org.

Another way to get involved with the community is through a new website called Wiki Planning (www.wikiplanning.org). After signing up with an email address and punching in a zip code, residents are invited to participate in several different activities, including surveys that will give us a better idea of what residents' value, and presentations on current projects happening in San Jose. Visitors can find information on everything from Land Use to Job and Population Trends. Additionally, there is space for feedback via the message board.

Also, beginning next month, my office will be adding a valuable member to our team. We are going to have a volunteer retired police officer working with us, so we can become even more

knowledgeable about public safety resources at our disposal. While you take advantage of some of the resources I've outlined here, my office is excited to connect him to District 8.

School is starting and the end of summer is near, but I'm excited about the momentum and opportunities that we have to come together. Enjoy the last Evergreen Village Movie Night, plan a block party, or spend a little time online doing Wiki Planning. It all strengthens this great part of San Jose we call home.

As always, my office is here to help you. If you have an idea or need assistance, e-mail the office at district8@sanjoseca.gov or call (408) 535-4908.



District 8 Report

By Rose Herrera
City Councilmember

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Evergreen Area Police Report

Robbery

Aug. 9 at 11:58 a.m.

Fowler Creek Park

Four victims were approached by an unknown male wearing a mask who demanded their property while simulating a weapon in his pocket. The suspect fled on foot after taking personal items from the victims. The case remains under investigation.

Robbery

Aug. 18 at 10 p.m.

2900 block of The Villages Parkway
The victim was assaulted by two unknown suspects who hit him on the head with a blunt object and cut his hand with an unknown object. The suspects fled with the victim's wallet and remain at large. The investigation is ongoing.

Source: San Jose Police Report

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